

ABSTRACT

--This invention provides a method for obtaining a nucleotide sequence that codes for the active part of a polypeptide specifically active for larvae of *S. littoralis*. The method comprises hybridizing at least one nucleotide probe to DNA from a strain of *B. thuringiensis* active against *S. littoralis*, wherein at least one nucleotide probe is derived from the 5' part of a restriction fragment of a gene for δ endotoxin of *B. thuringiensis* strain *aizawa* 7-29, isolating the DNA from the strain of *B. thuringiensis* active against *S. littoralis* that hybridized to the probe, cloning the isolated DNA into a vector, and purifying the vector to thereby obtain the nucleotide sequence that codes for the active part of a polypeptide specifically active for larvae of *S. littoralis*, wherein the specifically active polypeptide has (1) a specificity index of less than 1.0 and (2) a higher specific toxic activity towards *S. littoralis* than the native crystal proteins of the strains *aizawai* 7-29 or *berliner* 1715.--

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